



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

22 August 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: August 18, 2005

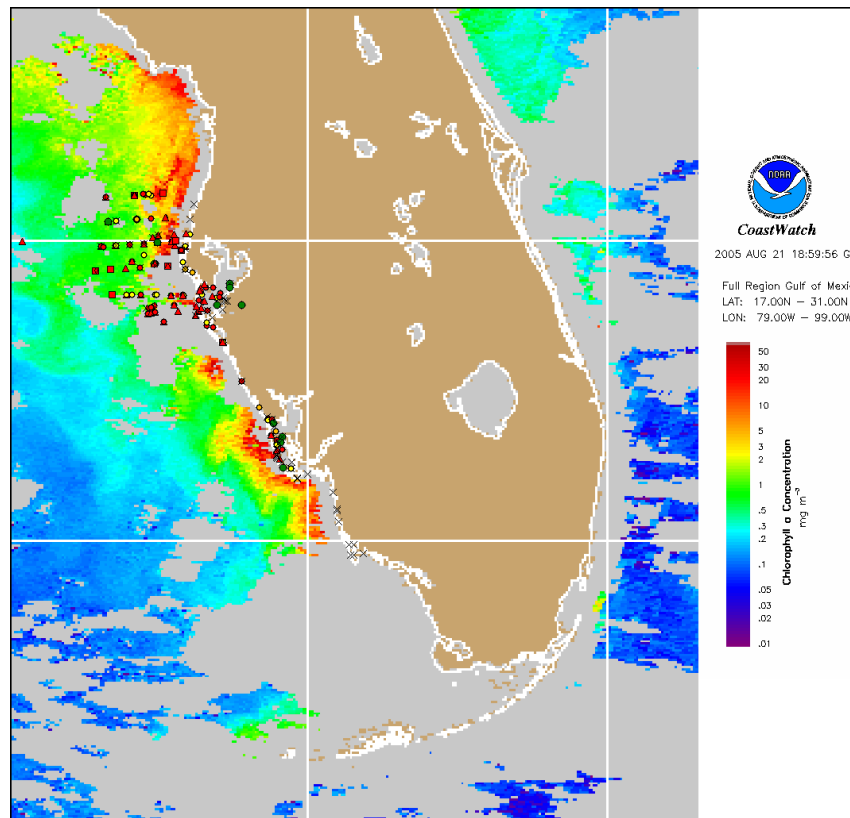
Conditions: A harmful algal bloom has been identified from northern Pinellas County to northern Lee County. The following impacts are possible today through Wednesday, especially in the afternoon: patchy moderate impacts in northern Pinellas, Sarasota, and northern Lee Counties; low impacts in southern Pinellas, Manatee, and Charlotte Counties. Very low impacts are possible on Thursday from northern Pinellas to northern Lee Counties. Due to the low oxygen water offshore, more dead fish may be found on the beach than normal. Dead fish smell, while unpleasant, does not produce the same respiratory irritation as red tide.

Analysis: Recent samples confirm that the northern extent of the bloom reaches offshore of Pasco County. Imagery from 8/22 indicates a local high chlorophyll concentration of $>20\mu\text{g/L}$ 32 km (20 miles) offshore of New Port Richey, near the northern boundary of the bloom. This imagery also indicates a chlorophyll concentration of $>20\mu\text{g/L}$ 13 km (8 miles) south of Sanibel, near the southern boundary of the bloom. Recent imagery shows a high chlorophyll feature offshore of Sarasota County, with a chlorophyll concentration of $>19\mu\text{g/L}$ 25 km (16 miles) west of Venice. This may be a non-harmful bloom. Sampling is recommended. Reports of discolored water are possible. Recent winds have been weak and variable. This will continue for the next few days, with seabreezes in the afternoon which may bring dead fish onshore. Transport of the bloom is not expected through Thursday.

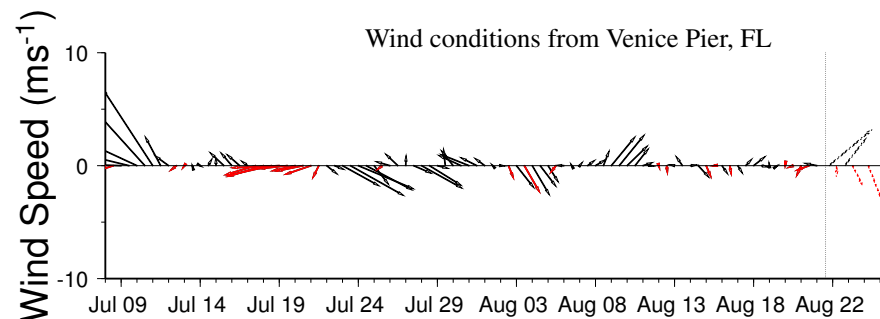
Bronder, Fenstermacher, Keller

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1. These data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
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3. There are restrictions on Internet/Web/public posting of these data.
4. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.

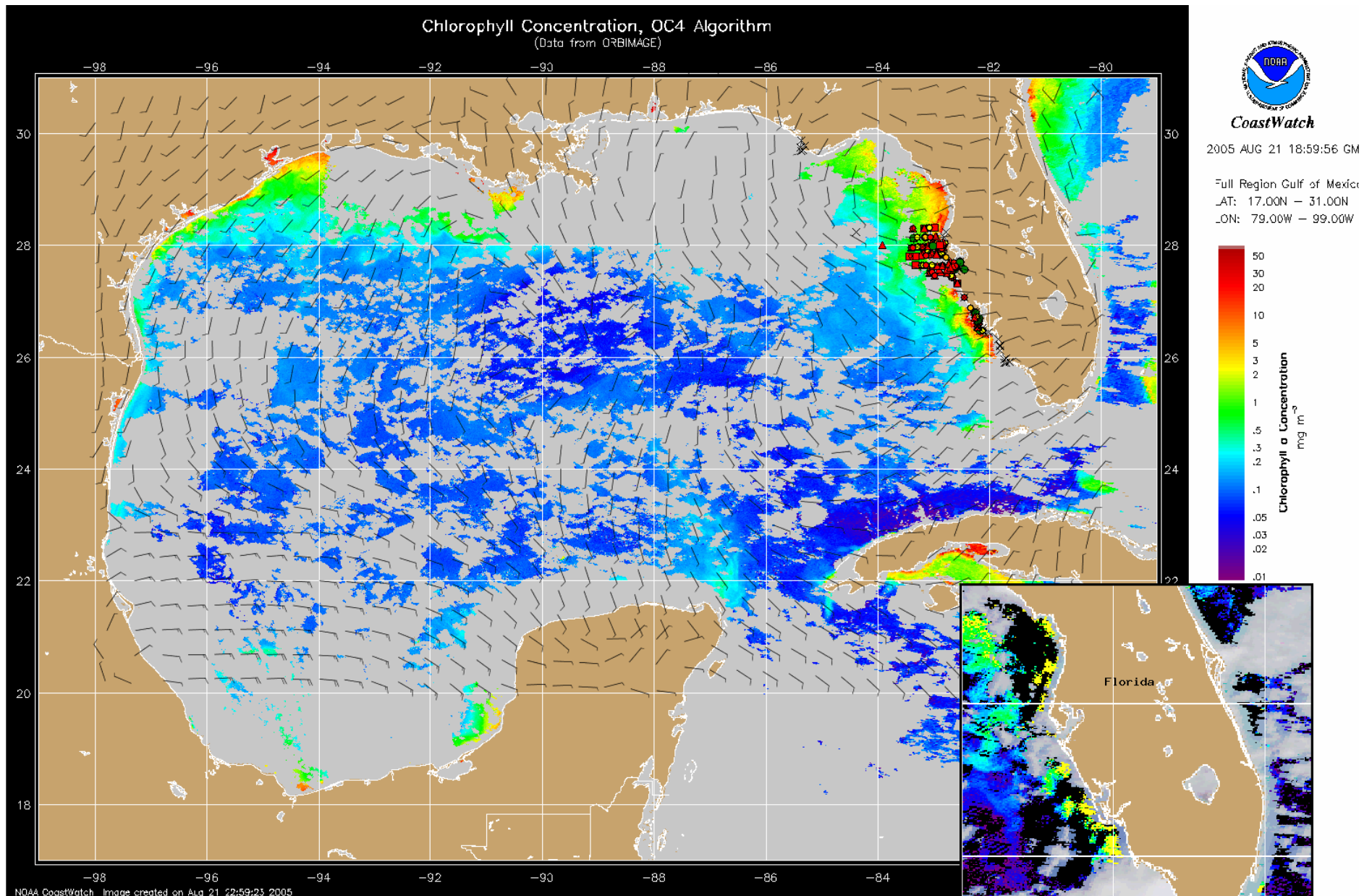


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from August 20, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

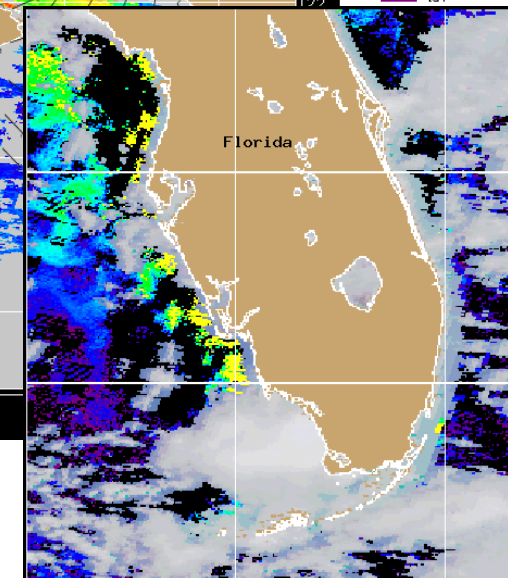


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Winds will be variable (5 kts, 3 m/s) through Wednesday, with westerlies (10 kts, 5 m/s) in the afternoons. On Thursday, winds will be northeast (10 kts, 5 m/s).



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for August 23, 2005 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from August 20, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis)

